Fig. I.

Fig. II.

Fig. III.

Lobelia inflata

LOBELIA INFLATA.

Indian tobacco.

PLATE XIX.

In the United States there are many species of Lobelia, which are interesting for their beauty, singularity or use. We have few plants more elegant than the cardinal flower, and few more curious in structure than the Lobelia Dortmanna. In medicinal powers, the subject of this article is entitled to take precedence of the rest. It is an annual plant, found in fields and road sides, from Canada to the southern states. It flowers from midsummer until the arrival of frosts.

The genus *Lobelia* has *a five cleft calyx; a monopetalous, irregular corolla, with a cleft tube; the anthers cohering; the capsule two or three celled.*

The species *inflata is branching and hairy, with ovate, serrate leaves, and turgid capsules.*